NIST Quantum Processes Group

Problems and Issues for Ion Trap QC by Carl J. Williams **National Institute of Standards & Technology**





http://qubit.nist.gov





Most Advanced Quantum Computing Effort

Ion trap quantum computing is considered to be one the most advanced efforts in the world:

- Passes all of the DiVincenzo Criteria for Scalability
 - a) Well characterized, scalable qubits
 - b) Ability (re)initiate to a starting state
 - c) Decoherence times longer than operation time
 - d) A universal set of one- and two-qubit gates
 - e) State specific readout
 - f) Efforts toward photon-ion coupling showing promise





- Teleportation of quantum state of an ion
- Separation & movement of entangled ions
- Quantum error correction demonstrated
- Quantum dense coding
- Quantum Fourier transform ran
- Demonstration of quantum logic clock
- 8-qubits entangled, 6-qubit GHZ state



The DiVincenzo Criteria (5+2)

☐ Scalable Physical System with well Characterized Qubits ☐ Initialization of Qubits to a Simple Fiducial State **□** Long Decoherence Time: $t_{decoherence} >> t_{gate}$ \square Universal Set of Quantum Gates \Rightarrow Entanglement $|000...\rangle$ Arbitrary One Qubit Operations - Almost any two Qubit Gate -e.g. Controlled-Not or Phase Gate ☐ A Qubit Specific Quantum Measurement – Readout Two Additional Criteria for Network Compatibility ☐ Ability to Interconvert Stationary and Flying Qubits ☐ Ability to Transmit Flying Qubits between two Locations

Hidden within these criteria is the need to interact any two arbitrary qubits and to do so in parallel. This is essential for error correction and scalability.

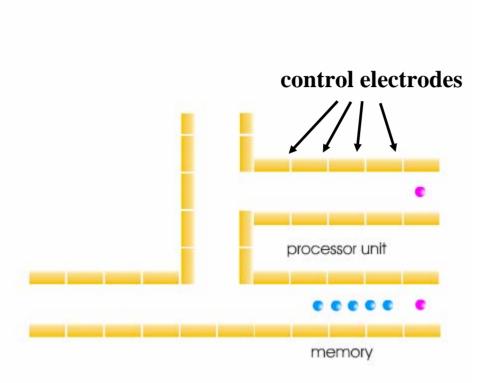
The Question of the Day

- What do I need, technically and experimentally to move from 8 qubits to 20-100 qubits?
- Is this the right number?
- What technical solutions -e.g. blue lasers, new traps, better detectors, ... -- will make this more likely
- What basic parameters will help those creating simulations to better quide us through the complex space?
- Should we select a ion?
- Is it time to further optimize the gates?
- What does the ion trap real estate look like and how much does it cost?





Multiplexed Ion Trap Architecture



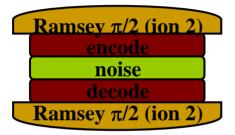
- Interconnected multi-trap structure
- Route ions by controlling electrode potentials
- Processor sympathetically cooled
- No individual optical addressing during two-qubit gates (can do gates in strong trap ⇒ fast)
- One-qubit gates in subtrap
- Readout in subtrap
- Wineland et al., J. Res. NIST. 103, 259 (1998).
- Kielpinski, Monroe, Wineland, *Nature* 417, 709 (2002). Other proposals: DeVoe, *Phys. Rev. A* 58, 910 (1998). Cirac and Zoller, *Nature* 404, 579 (2000).



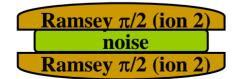
Entanglement for Decoherence Suppression

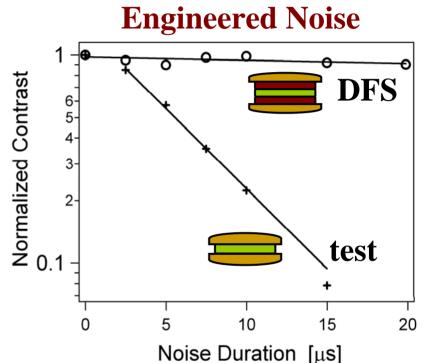
How is the Experiment Done?

a) Encode an arbitrary qubit and apply noise



b) Compare with noise applied to an arbitrary unencoded qubit





Also works with Ambient Noise



Error Correction for Ions

- After optimizing our pulse shapes and creating a DFS we need to examine the the ECC's
- Steane has shown a CSS [127,29,15] code for a 300 qubit quantum computing and 1Gop
 - 127 qubits, 29 logical qubits, (15-1)/2=7 errors
- Knill has a teleportation code that allows for errors of up to 10^{-2}
- The BS codes have some simplicity in operational complexity





Entropy removal: Error correction

• Strategy: Post Selective QEC

- Encode quantum information in 4 qubit error detection code + concatenation
- Teleport often. Every qubit is operated on at every time step.

 Post select on the outcome of Bell measurements. Operations and error correction are integrated into teleportation.

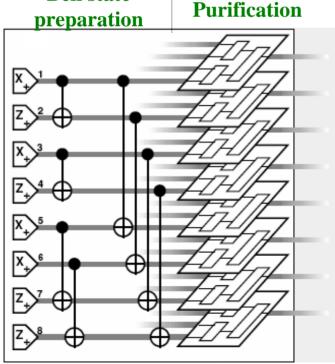
• Resources:

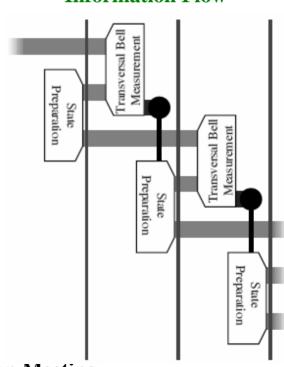
Bell state

- High fidelity Bell pairs encoded in 8 qubits
- Use parallelism to purify the encoded Bell pairs

E. Knill, quant-ph/0312190, quant-ph/0402171, quant-ph/0404104

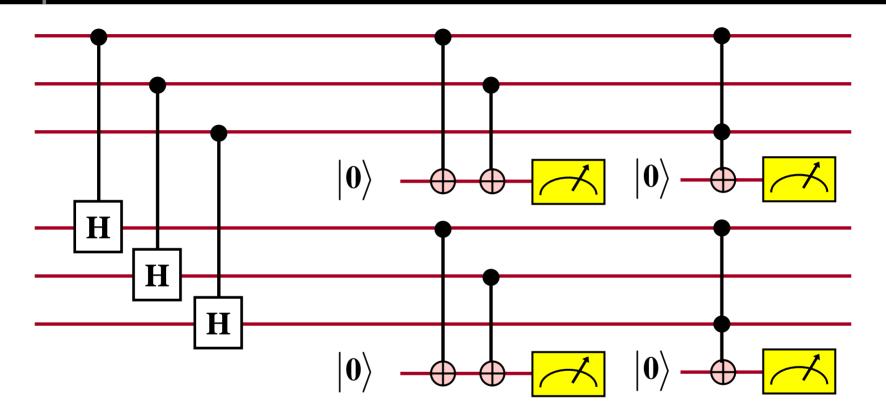
Information Flow







The Problem: View I



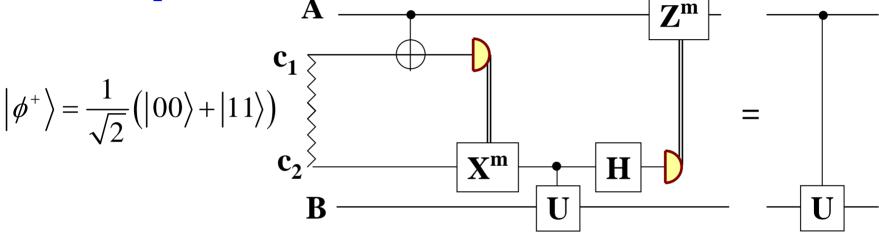
Statement of Problem: For fault tolerant QC it is necessary that one can interact arbitrary qubits and desirable to maximize parallelism of quantum gates!!!



Nonlocal Gates

Given prior entangled separated pair one can connect two





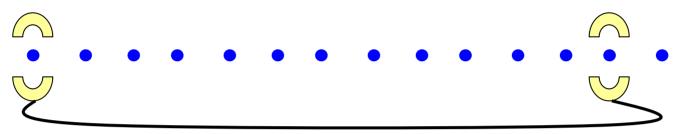
Need n EPR pairs for Controlled-n(U) gate

- D. Gottesman and I. L. Chuang, *Nature* 402, 390 (1999)
- J. Eisert, K. Jacobs, P. Papadopoulus and M. B. Plenio, *Phys. Rev.* A62, 052317 (2000)



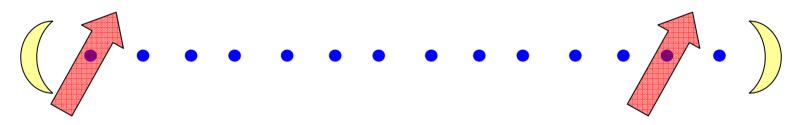
Inter-qubit communication

Flying Qubits



Requires efficient interconversion of material qubits and photons Needs space for coupling cavities

Common mode coupling (e.g. vibrational mode of ion trap)



Interactions always on, opens a channel for decoherence Cross talk problem – especially with many ions

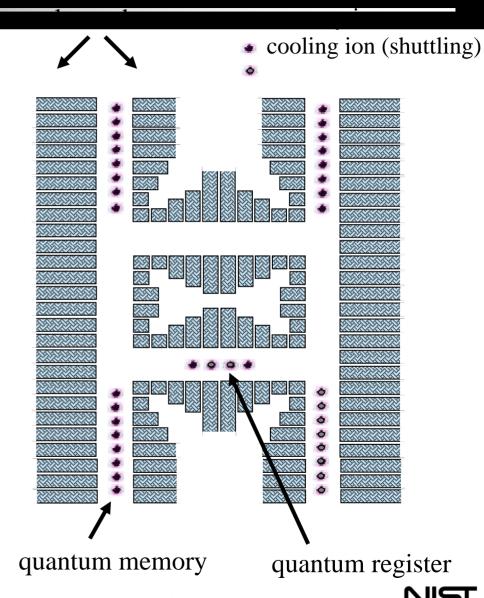




Quantum CCD Architecture

Kielpinski, Monroe, & Wineland Nature, June 13, 2002







NIST Boulder Ion Trap Meeting February 21, 2006

Scalable Ion Processor

entanglement ion memory ion cooling ion processor entanglement processor



Benefits of Ion Approach

- Atoms provided by Nature (all perfectly identical)
- Naturally decoherence-free
 - (natural "environment" is free space)
- Initialization Robust
- One-qubit operations well-established, high quality
 - (e.g., atomic clocks)
- Two-qubit gates now routine
 - Numerous variations with and w/o addressing
- High-efficiency quantum measurement (readout) well-established
- Movement of ions now routine
 - Maintains entanglement
 - Separation of ion pairs routine

